

The 132nd annual meeting of the Bent-Prowers Cattle & Horse Growers Association convened at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 17, 2001, at the Springfield High School with president, Bill Gray presiding.

Jim Schleining gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by the Southeast Colorado Junior Cattlemen's Association. Karla Alfrey, president of Springfield Chamber of Commerce, then welcomed our group to Springfield even in the bad weather.

Russell George, Director of Dept. of Wildlife and Bob Shoemaker from the Dept. of Wildlife Commission Legislator discussed the different bills concerning wildlife issues. They talked about predator control in the state. The prairie dog issue was discussed and they are trying to get them not listed as endanger species.

Kent Lebsack, CCA executive vice president, then spoke to the group. He discussed the different bills that are coming up.

Dave Mendenhall gave a report on CCA issues. He mentioned the resolutions need to be in CCA office by April 13. Dave said that CCA membership is down this year.

Clarence Newcomb gave a talk about R-Calf. He gave a presentation to the group explaining what R-Calf was and their position in the cattle industry.

Being no further reports to be given, president Bill Gray called the business meeting to order.

Milton Rink made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last meeting. Seconded by Steve Ptolemy. Motion carried.

As there was no old business to act on, Kerry Hartshorn gave the Audit Committee Report. Steve McEndree moved that the audit report be accepted. Kimmie Lewis seconded the motion. Motion carried. The Budget for 2001 was presented. Karren Turner made a motion to accept the budget. Bruce Fickenscher seconded the motion. Motion carried. The banking summary was given.

The Bent-Prowers Endowment Trust report was given. Steve Ptolemy moved and Bruce Fickenscher seconded that we accept the Endowment Trust report. Motion carried.

Steve McEndree read the different resolutions that we had written up. Steve McEndree moved that we accept resolution 2 and 4 as presented. Karren Turner seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Corwin Brown moved that we combine 1A and 1B resolution. Pat Karney seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Steve McEndree moved and Milton Rink seconded the motion to accept resolution #3 as rewritten. Motion carried.

Karren Turner moved and Kimmie Lewis seconded the motion to accept resolution #5. Motion carried.

Steve McEndree and Karren Turner seconded the motion to accept resolution #6. Motion carried.

Bruce Fickenscher gave the nominating committee report. They were as following. President - Kerry Hartshorn; 1st Vice president - Hans Hasser; 2nd Vice president - Karren Turner; Secretary-Treasurer - Chi Bond; and Past presidents - Bill Gray, Bruce Fickenscher, and Milton Rink. Steve McEndree moved and Kimmie Lewis seconded the motion to accept these officers. Motion carried.

Bruce then gave the names for directors as following: Baca-Steve McEndree, Keith VanCampen, Jo Ann McEndree and Doug Hasser; Bent-Joe Kasza, Lori Chase, Lane Bodey, Darren Ridley, Chris Hasser and Alta Mae Brown; Kiowa-Dale Butler, Laning Peterson, Greg Shalberg and George Ellicott; Otero-Pat Karney, Rcass Nielsen, Martin Canterbury, Patty Ptolemy, and Dave Mendenhall; and Prowers-Marilyn Pettinger, David Holden, Ben Kennedy and Bill Curry. Karren Turner mentioned about putting John George on the board for Baca county. Steve McEndree moved and Marilyn Pettinger seconded the motion to put John George on as a director and accepting the names of the rest of the directors. Motion carried.

Bruce Fickenscher moved and Kimmie Lewis seconded the motion to join R-Calf. Discussion was called for. Steve Ptolemy gave his concerns, John Smartt felt that everyone should make their own decision. Steve McEndree moved to table this until the next board meeting. John Smartt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

After no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jo Ann McEndree
Secretary

Bent-Prowers Cattle and Horse Growers Association

Resolution

Whereas, prairie dogs have long been a costly pest to ranchers and farmers; and

Whereas, prairie dogs cause constant overgrazing in areas they inhabit, which in turn, causes root deterioration (pruning) on climax grasses, such as, Blue Gramma, Side Oats Gramma, big and little stem. When these grasses are overgrazed they cause invader species to invade, in particular, three awn, sunflowers, kerosene weed and more. If the prairie dogs are killed by plague these invaders are the primary plants left in the dog town.

Whereas, several counties in southeastern Colorado have declared prairie dogs a rodent pest; and

Whereas, there is an effort to monetarily pay individual landowners to lease their habitat for prairie dogs and/or receive payment to raise prairie dogs.

Therefore be it resolved, the Bent-Prowers Cattle and Horse Grower's Association deem it necessary to clearly set forth a damage provision, that if an individual receives payments for lease and/or to raise prairie dogs, that the corporators be held liable to control the rodents on their property. Furthermore, any intrusion and/or damages incurred by any adjoining land owner (neighbor) will be fully compensated for all damages and losses incurred and expenses for removal.

2. Whereas, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife services have been petitioned to list the Black-tailed Prairie Dog and many other species as endangered species without any sound science used to promote the listing; and

Whereas, sound science is needed to make the correct listing to save endangered species;

Therefore be it resolved, that the Bent-Prowers Cattle and Horse Grower's Association go on record as demanding that all laws that pertain to the listing be followed and only sound science be used to make listings.

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Resolution

3.

Whereas, the attempt to list a species as endangered is expensive and many times frivolous and whereas the attempt is often done by threat of a lawsuit; and

Whereas, many attempts are not based on science;

Therefore be it resolved; the Bent Prowers Cattle and Horse Grower's Association believes the group that is requesting the endangered species designation be required to pay for all scientific studies in the consideration of an endangered species designation.

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4. Whereas, there has not been a good solid count of the acres of Prairie Dog habitat in Colorado; and

Whereas, a good count would prevent the listing of the Prairie Dog as and Endangered Species;

Therefore be it resolved, that all local cattlemen's associations lead the effort in counting the Prairie Dog acres by locating and assisting the Colorado DOW in finding, measuring, and recording all of the towns in Colorado.

5. Whereas, the Bent-Prowers Cattle and Horse Grower's Association has consistently and adamantly opposed the intrusion of government in our free enterprise cattle cooperations; and

Whereas, the local grassroots cattle organization has historically resolved to oppose government growth and/or government control; and

Whereas, the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) and The Nature Conservancy (THC) together developed and is currently proposing another government program, referred to as the Grassland Reserve Program, excluding input from the majority of the privately owned grassland stewards; and

Whereas, cattle producers need a strong healthy market to ensure profitability -- not another government program;

Therefore be it resolved, we the Bent-Prowers Cattle and Horse Grower's Association are opposed to the Grassland Reserve Program. And, furthermore, we strongly urge the NCBA and the Colorado Cattlemen's Association Board of Directors and support staff to follow our association's written policies and guidelines, never forgetting, that our great industry's strength comes from the individual voice and membership at the local level -- governing from the bottom up -- not the top down.

6. Whereas, since our last annual meeting, many of our beloved and valued members passed to their reward. We who remain, have enjoyed and benefited from their association with us and we are saddened by their absence; and

Whereas, we share in the sorrow of their families and loved ones and to their memory we pledge to support the principles which these great men and women have firmly instilled in our association;

Therefore be it resolved, We, the members of the Bent-Prowers Cattle and Horse Grower's Association, now stand to take a moment to memorialize our deceased members.